

# How To Wean A Kitten



At 4-4.5 weeks (ideally not earlier or later) you should begin to wean the kittens following these steps:

1. Mix a small amount of wet kitten food into the formula mix (a blender bottle is ideal to use to mix it to reduce lumps) and bottle-feed to the kitten. Do this for 2-3 days. If you don't have a blender bottle, skip this step.
2. Mix wet kitten food into the formula mix (be sure to not mix it 'too' much as there should now be small clumps) and offer it to the kitten on a spoon whilst slowly lowering the spoon to a flat saucer (plate) ensuring it is slightly warm. This process can be messy so it may help to place a puppy pad under the saucer. When they are beginning to wean, offer them the food to eat first, and then top them up with the bottle. After a few days of doing this they should no longer take the bottle. Ensure that you watch each kitten eat as some can develop slower.
3. Over the next week, you can slowly add a larger ratio of wet kitten food to the formula to make a slurry. By 5 weeks, they should be able to eat wet kitten food by themselves (without being mixed with formula) and ensure that they have access to fresh water at all times. Be prepared - weaning is a messy process! *If your kittens are struggling to become weaned or are not weaned by 6 weeks of age, please contact your Foster Mentor if you are a Kemps Creek carer (or the Welfare Officer if you are a carer for an AWL NSW branch) for further advice.*